

**Subject:** Consultation with Local Officials in Non-Metropolitan Areas

**From:** Bruce Carr <CARRB@akrr.com>

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**To:** stip@dot.state.ak.us

Jeff,

I recommend an additional category be added to your process which ensures that all modes of transportation be consulted as part of the formal consultation process. Some modes, for example the Alaska Railroad, have transportation responsibility, are government owned, but are not managed by "elected or appointed officials".

The Alaska Railroad is the recipient of federal funds, is an officially designated agency by the Governor to receive such funds, and have project interface which all modes of transportation such as highways, airports, ports, pedestrian walkways, etc. Our projects must be included in the STP and STIP per federal regulations. It is critical that intermodal cooperation extend beyond just "public processes" and ensure true coordination of multi-modal projects by including all modes in the formal consultation process.

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